

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for performing resource pool size maintenance for an application server, comprising:

triggering a resource pool shrink check;  
determining that pool shrinking is necessary;  
reducing resources that have been determined to be at least one of not created  
successfully and not able to be refreshed in an unavailable deque; and  
reducing resources that have been determined to be available in an available deque.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said triggering a resource pool shrink check includes:

determining that a period of time has expired; and  
performing the resource pool shrink check at the expiration of the period of time.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the period of time is set by a programmable attribute.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said determining that pool shrinking is necessary includes:

detecting resources contained in ~~an~~ the available deque or a the unavailable deque.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein determining that pool shrinking is necessary includes:

determining the number of resources in the resource pool is greater than a maximum  
resource pool threshold value.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the maximum resource pool threshold value is set by a programmable attribute.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein reducing resources in an unavailable deque includes:
  - reducing resources in an unavailable deque to coincide with a maximum unavailable resources threshold.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the reduced resources in the unavailable deque are destroyed.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein reducing resources in an available deque includes:
  - reducing resources in an available deque to coincide with a maximum available resources threshold.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein resources in the available deque are destroyed.
11. (Currently Amended) A method for performing resource pool maintenance for an application server, comprising:
  - triggering a test for pool resources;
  - determining whether at least one of the resources is functioning properly by performing a
  - test on pool resources; and
  - refreshing pool resources based on the pool resources testing.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein said triggering a test for pool resources includes:

determining that a period of time has expired; and  
performing the resource pool shrink check at the expiration of the period of time.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein said determining whether at least one of the resources is functioning properly by performing a test on pool resources includes:

~~determining if pool resources are functioning properly, wherein the resources are refreshed if they are~~ refreshing resources determined to not be functioning properly.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for performing maintenance on connection pool dequeues in an application server, comprising:

traversing an unavailable deque of resources that have been determined to be at least one of not created successfully and not able to be refreshed and a reserved deque of resources that are allocated;

performing maintenance on the unavailable deque; and  
performing maintenance on the reserved deque.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein said traversing an unavailable and a reserved deque includes:

determining what resources are available in the unavailable deque and the reserved deque.

16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein said performing maintenance on the unavailable deque includes:

scheduling resource creation for each resource in the unavailable deque.

17. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein said performing maintenance on the reserved deque includes:

scheduling resource creation for each resource in the reserved deque.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for performing resource creation in a connection pool in an application server, comprising:

generating a resource in connection pool;

~~confirming the generation of the resource~~ determining that the resource was created successfully in the connection pool; and

moving the resource to an available deque; ~~if~~ when successful generation of the resource is confirmed, otherwise moving the resource to an unavailable deque for tracking resources that are not created successfully.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising:

determining that a period of time has expired; and

generating a resource at the expiration of the period of time.

20. (Currently Added) A method for performing resource pool maintenance, comprising:

determining that pool shrinking is necessary;

removing unavailable resources that have been determined to be at least one of not created successfully and not able to be refreshed from an unavailable deque of a resource pool; and

removing available resources from an available deque of the resource pool.